

March 27, 2017

County Treasurer's Office Announces New Delinquent Collections Program

[The Beaufort County Treasurer's Office](#) will begin using a third party collection agency, [American Financial Credit Services \(AFCS\)](#), to assist in the collection of delinquent business personal property taxes.

In the past, the Annual Tax Sale was the primary and only delinquent collection program. In 2014, with support from Beaufort County Council, the Treasurer's Office initiated the [Setoff Debt Program](#). This program has yielded positive results over the past three years but does have limitations.

Generally, businesses cannot be submitted through the Setoff Debt program because the program requires the use of a social security number, which is an identifier most businesses do not have.

"Pursuing and collecting delinquent taxes is a sensitive subject, but it is part of my role as Treasurer," said Maria Walls, CPA, Beaufort County Treasurer. "So we utilize programs that fulfill our responsibility with professional and personalized services."

According to Walls, in addition to pursuing the taxes owed, AFCS's collection services will assist delinquent taxpayers who are found to have been taxed incorrectly by educating them on the proper documentation to file so the tax does not continue to be assessed each year."

There is no cost to the County for this program and the taxes will be collected in full. AFCS' 20% fee is in addition to the delinquent taxes and is paid by the delinquent taxpayer.

Additional information may be obtained by visiting the Beaufort County Treasurer's website at beaufortcountytreasurer.com.